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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/815,374	03/22/2001	Asit Dan	YOR920000769US1	4247

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EXAMINER

AKERS, GEOFFREY R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3625

DATE MAILED: 10/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/815,374

Applicant(s)

DAN ET AL.

Examiner

Geoffrey Akers

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-96 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-96 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-96 have been examined.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

2. Claims 73-96 are rejected under 35 USC 101 for failing to define a concrete, useful and tangible result.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. Claims 1-72 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Barnes(US Pat. No: 5,970,475) in view of Heckerman(US Pat. No: 6,633,852).

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4. Barnes teaches an electronic procurement system for B2B applications (Abstract)(col 3 line 5-col 4 line 26). Barnes teaches a web-based application for uniting the buyer and seller in conducting e-commerce(Fig 1) as well as clearing operations(Fig 1/20) and payment(Fig 1/18/10/12/14). Barnes teaches a customer server(Fig 3/34) in communication with a bank server(Fig 1/18) and a supplier catalog server(Fig 1/42) and a supplier legacy system(Fig 3/44) as well as a processor(Fig 1/40). Barnes also teaches user terminals and a purchaser legacy system(Fig 3/46) in a procurement a system(Fig 3/12) a clearing gateway(Fig 3/50) and a certificate authority(Fig 3/54). Barnes teaches a procurement system(Fig 5/12) issuing a purchase order(Fig 5/60) to a supplier system(Fig 5/16) that processes orders. Barnes further teaches accounting applications(Fig 6A/74) and reporting(Fig 6A/82) and a web server(Fig 6A/72). Barnes teaches Internet applications(Fig 6B) utilizing secure socket layer applications as well as a supplier(Fig 6B/106). Barnes further teaches encryption utilizing

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a certificate authority(Fig 7/110) and a procurement system(Fig 8/12) connected to a bank server(Fig 8/18). Barnes teaches user authentication(Fig 9/129). Barnes also teaches order status(Fig 10/131d) reporting(Fig 10/131e) and password utilization(Fig 10/131g) at the customer computer. Barnes also teaches making a purchase(Fig 11) and selecting a supplier group and selecting products for a list/cart(Fig 11/132) as well as account mapping and supplier management(Fig 13.139) and payment management(Fig 13/141). Barnes further teaches setup and maintaining suppliers(Fig 14/139a) consisting of searching routines as well as setting up supplier groups(Fig 15/139b). Barnes teaches the designated suppliers(Fig 16/139c) as well as a main employee manager(Fig 17). Barnes also teaches specified users to order items(Fig 18) and an accounting module(Fig 20) for supplier payments and tax reporting and corporate purchasing cards(Fig 20) as well as managing supplier payments as well as teaching ACH payments and purchasing cards(Fig 22). Barnes teaches a payment module including a customer server receiving a confirmation from a gateway(ACH)(Fig 23). Barnes teaches accounting reports and audit reports(Fig 24/143) and user defined reports(Fig 24/144) and supplier activity and purchase orders(Fig 24/142). In addition to that taught by Barnes, Heckerman teaches a preference based electronic catalog browser(Abstract)(col 3 line 28-col 4 line 58). Heckerman also teaches a network generator(Fig 3/312) and a preference based browser(Fig 3/314) and a database(Fig 3/316). Heckerman teaches a network constructor(Fig 6/602) and a database(Fig 6/316) and a network scorer(Fig 6/318). Heckerman teaches a learning process and a belief network(Fig 7/702) and variable definitions(Fig 7/714). Heckerman also teaches scoring

each belief network with the best score(Fig 10/1006) and score network(Fig 10/1004).Heckerman teaches calculating parametrics(Fig 11) and a network scorer(Fig 11A) and a learning network(Fig 12).Heckerman teaches a preference-based browser consisting of a receive belief network(Fig 14/1402) an access belief network(Fig 14/1406) the ranking of preferences(Fig 14/1408). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to combine Barnes in view of Heckerman to teach the disclosure. The motivation to combine is to teach a data processing system for establishing a customized catalog that meets user preferences.


***Conclusion***

**5. THIS ACTION IS MADE NON-FINAL.**

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6. Any questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the primary examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 703-306-5844. If attempts to contact the primary examiner are unsuccessful, the primary examiner's superior, Mr. Vincent Millin, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1065.

September 29,2004



9/29/04

**DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**